Operations Working Group Report

November, 2012

The Operations Working Group (OWG) met on October 17, 2012 and considered the following:

**August OWG Meeting Minutes Review –**

The working group reviewed and approved the August meeting minutes.

**Revision Request Review –**

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| **102NOGRR Smiley.png** |
| **Synchronization with NPRR454, Removal of Unfunded Project List Language.** |
| Impact Analysis Review |
| **OWG Action**: OWG Recommends ROS Approval Smiley.png |
| Discussion:  This NOGRR aligns the Nodal Operating Guides with NPRR 454 which removed language regarding the Unfunded Project List.  This NOGRR also aligns the Nodal Operating Guides with the Protocols by requiring ERCOT’s opinion in the TAC Report for any NOGRR requiring an ERCOT project for implementation; and includes administrative alignment changes [ERCOT] After review of the Impact Analysis, OWG recommends ROS approval. |

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| **101NOGRR Smiley.png** |
| **Market Transparency for DC Tie Outage Information.** |
| Language Review |
| **OWG Action**: OWG calls for an Impact Analysis Smiley.png |
| Discussion:  This Nodal Operating Guide Revision Request (NOGRR) provides that ERCOT shall produce a detailed report regarding any outage of a Direct Current Tie (DC Tie) in a timely manner. Outages of interconnection points between the ERCOT and non-ERCOT Control Areas have market implications on both the ERCOT market and the interconnected market. Detailed information regarding such outages is necessary for Market Participants on both sides of the interconnection point to be able to manage risk associated with such outages. [Tenaska] ERCOT Comment: Earlier it was proposed to be included in the Daily Grid Operations report. But it has to be done separately as some parts of it cannot be completely automated (need to review and delete confidential information).  OWG agrees with ERCOT comments. OWG requests ERCOT perform an Impact Analysis. |

**Operations Report –**

* VJ Betanabhatla gave the Operations Report. Marguerite asked a question about the Odessa Switching plan and why it was not in the August report. The answer for this is it is not a MP/TOAP/PCAP and hence not listed under that section of the report. It is a switching plan for which outages were submitted in the Outage Scheduler.
* There were no significant events to report.

**Operations Task Force Report –**

* Stan Morris gave a brief update.

**Nodal Protocol and Guides Resolution Task Force Report –**

* Frank Owens stated that the NPGRTF did not meet.

**Seminar Task Force Report**

* Alan provided the updates. He mentioned that the task force met twice and discussed the agenda for future meetings. He presented an overview of topics that will be covered in the 2013 Operations seminar and also listed the presenters for the different topics. He needs a volunteer (experienced generation personnel) for plant weatherization presentation.

**TRE Update Report –**

Mark discussed the San Diego event and wanted to get OWG’s input on the clarity and adequacy of Operating Guides and other documents related to the items below, as well as consistency of practices associated with such documents

* Coordination of relay settings in ratings, particularly when these are most limiting series elements
* Operational use of facility owner ratings when different values are not available for continuous, 2 hours, and 15 minute capability
* Consideration of overload relay trip times when establishing post-contingency mitigation plans
* Use of Mitigation Plans vs TOAPs versus RAPS and consistency of definitions and practices associated with these plans
* Review process for coordination of SPS and UVLS with other protection schemes
* Procedural documents related to System Operating Limits (SOLs) and ratings.

Mark also mentioned that there are Protocol and Operating Guide audits coming up. OWG requested that Paula Muller come talk to the group.

**System Operations Report –**

Colleen stated that there were no new ERCOT procedures to review. She did mention that the Time Error correction was changing on November 1st from 3 seconds to 30 seconds.

**Other –**

**NPRR 219**

ERCOT suggested that the 3 gray boxes (related to ERCOT submitting the transmission outage information for the generators) be removed. Cost benefit analysis shows that it is cost effective to follow the current process (generator calls ERCOT outage scheduler who enters the outages for the generator).

After much discussion, OWG Recommendation: Do not remove the gray boxes. Discuss project priorities at ROS and pursue the project to update the Outage scheduler so the generators can enter the outages.

Joint meeting between OWG and NDSWG to address ROS directive Work with ERCOT to revise the Nodal Operating Guides is planned for January 16, 2013 at the ERCOT Met Center room168:

* Modify the definition of Credible Single Contingency for Operations Planning to accurately state the contingencies. Consider changing the defined term from Credible Single Contingency… to Credible Contingencies… or Operations Contingencies.
* Explicitly state applicable operations studies or analyses. Consider use of defined terms. Also consider revising applicable sections of the Nodal Protocols for consistency.
* Explicitly state applicable operations contingencies or use newly defined Credible Single Contingency term. Also consider revising applicable sections of the Nodal Protocols for consistency.
* Explicitly state applicable reliability criteria or reference Section 2.2.2 – Security Criteria. Also consider revising applicable sections of the Nodal Protocols for consistency.
* Consider removing the redundantly stated security criteria in Section 4.3 – Operation to Maintain Transmission System Security.
* Consider expansion of Section 2.4 – Outage Coordination to provide guidance/requirements for outage studies.
* Consider addition of requirements for TSP provision of contingencies in Section 5.1 – System Modeling Information.

Only substantive changes to reflect current practices should be included.

**Biennial Reactive test data in NDCRC**

Ross Owen mentioned that there are a lot of units that did not perform the 2 year reactive testing. It is important for all the units to perform and provide the latest test results on NDCRC website so the TOs can easily access the information to perform reliability studies.

Isabel Flores said that a market notice was sent out to the generators to perform their tests as required. There was a lot of response and many Resources have completed their tests. A few extensions were given to wind Resources.

**Future Meeting Dates –**

November 14th, 2012